

Statement on the Tawergha file progress issued in Misrata on 31st of Jan 2018

by the following entities:

The association of martyrs and missing persons, the military council and council of elders from Misrata, a civil society organization and Misrata tribe's representatives.

All the mentioned above confirm their support to all the efforts made by the government regarding the Tawergha file, also affirm their support to establish a national reconciliation between Misrata and Tawergha and looking forward to closing this file.

State the following:

First:

We condemn the violation of the agreement signed between the two committees formed for this file by the date 31st Aug 2016 and signed on 19th June 2017, as well as bearing the responsibility for the wrongful management of the Tawergha file which is represented in the following:

- 1) Declaring the date of the return without committing to the implementation of all the terms of the agreement. Particularly the terms of justice, reconciliation and extradition of the wanted personals. Article ten states the city of Tawergha will be ready and will be able to return after all the necessary security measures are in place and the urbanization is restored as well as providing compensation to all parties.
- 2) Many offensive statements were issued by representatives from Tawergha, such as the repetitive statements by a member of the House of Representatives about the 17 Feb revolution. Another statement issued on 21 June 2017 just two days after the adoption and ratification of the agreement, the statement was issued by elders from Tawergha municipal council, civil society institutions, and supporting forces of Tawergha which includes aggressive and inflammatory statements against the city of Misrata. Also, issuance of threats from several of its affiliates who are members of the dignity operation, as they rejected the agreement and showed unwilling to reconcile.
- 3) Decision of the Minister of Interior Commissioner No. 48 of 2018 on the establishment of the Security Directorate in Tawergha issued January 23, 2018.

Second:

We demand from the national accord to commit to the agreement and implement law number 1 of 2014 which states providing care for the families of martyrs and missing persons before the implementation of the return proceeds.

Third:

Immediate suspension on all ongoing works in Tawergha which would change the features of the area, as it will result to the obliteration and concealment of the evidence that may lead to the graves of the missing persons in Tawergha since 2011. National and international procedure should be followed for tracing, and guidance to the graves.

Fourth:

Don't make the Tawergha file into an international affair and limit all cases related to this file to the Libyan judicial authorities.

Fifth:

Emphasize that Tawergha is a branch of the municipality of Misrata, as it was formerly a subsidiary of the Misrata security directorate and part of central region military. Also, Tawergha should show commitment in coordination with Misrata to take all decisions of mutual interest. Tawergha should not be part of any alliances against, or harmful to Misrata, as both cities are neighborhoods and have economic, social, political and security interests.

Sixth:

Deal with the Tawergha file within the comprehensive of all files of displaced people throughout the country, especially the Benghazi displaced people.

Seventh:

Postpone the return until all the mentioned points above are resolved to achieve comprehensive reconciliation before the return. As well as having a realistic objectives and durable solution for this sensitive issue, away from media propaganda and political exploitation.

Disclaimer:

This statement has been translated to the best of our ability, but we cannot guarantee it is 100% accurate so don't go to war over it.

Original source:

<http://www.tawergha.org/docs/2018-01-31-libya-misrata-statement-rejecting-return-of-tawergha-internally-displaced-arabic.pdf>